

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:) Date: July 22, 2003
Feliks Bator et al.) Attorney Docket No.: F-673
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned) Customer No.: 00919
(Continuation of 09/848,676)
Filed: Concurrently Herewith) Group Art Unit: 2876
Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

For: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INSTANT ONLINE POSTAGE METERING**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b) exists.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with the following provisions, as identified below with marked boxes, available under 37 CFR § 1.97:

1. **[XXX] 37 CFR § 1.97(b)** - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed according to one of the following: (i) within 3 months of the filing date of this application (other than a CPA); (ii) within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; (iii) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or (iv) before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

OR

2. **[] 37 CFR § 1.97(c)** - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of any of a final action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and it is accompanied by the statement or fee as identified below:

2.1 **[]** Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - see below.

OR

2.2 **[]** Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - see below.

OR

2.3 **[]** Please charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

**** Provisional Fee Authorization.** If Box 2.1 or Box 2.2 is marked above and a final action under § 1.113 has in fact been mailed before the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) as if Box 2.3 had been marked.

OR

3. **[] 37 CFR § 1.97(d)** - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee and it is accompanied by the statement and fee as identified below:

3.1.1 **[]** Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - see below.

OR

3.1.2 **[]** Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - see below.

AND

3.2 **[]** Please charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing

below, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

A list of the patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449 (Modified).

A copy of each of the items on PTO-1449 (Modified) can be found in the parent application, U.S. Application Serial No. 09/848,676 filed May 3, 2001.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. **16-1885**.

Respectfully submitted,



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Plus attachments: Form PTO-1449 (Modified)

FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)				Atty. Docket Number F-673		Serial No. Not Yet Assigned	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT				Applicant Feliks Bator et al.			
BY APPLICANT				Filing Date Concurrently Herewith		Group 2876	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	AA	6141854	10/00	Heiden et al.			
	AB	4873645	10/89	Hunter et al.			
	AC	5943658	08/99	Gravell et al.			
	AD	4775246	10/88	Edelman et al.			
	AE	5233657	08/93	Gunther			
	AF	6175826	01/01	Malandra et al.			
	AG	6098058	08/00	Gravell et al.			
	AH	6438530	08/02	Heiden et al.			
	AI	6151591	11/00	Pierce et al.			
	AJ	6005945	12/99	Whitehouse			
	AK	4447890	05/84	Duwel et al.			
	AL	4253158	02/81	McFiggans			
	AM	4812994	03/89	Taylor et al.			
	AN	4864506	09/89	Storace			
	AO	6385731	05/02	Ananda			
	AP	4725718	02/88	Sansone et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
	AP	WO 98/57302	12/17/98	PCT			
	AQ	WO 98/57303	12/17/98	PCT			
	AR	WO 98/57304	12/17/98	PCT			
	AS	WO 98/57305	12/17/98	PCT			
	AT	WO 98/57306	12/17/98	PCT			
	AU	WO 98/57460	12/17/98	PCT			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AV	Title: New Meters Let Consumers Dial Up Postage, 1995.					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance <u>and</u> not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							